

### IN THE CLAIMS

18. (newly added) An optical amplifier comprising:
- an optical coupler receiving an optical light, which includes an optical signal light and dividing the received optical light into first and second optical lights;
- an optical filter operatively connected to the optical coupler for passing the optical signal light from the first optical light;
- a detector operatively connected to the optical filter for receiving the optical signal light passed through the optical filter to detect the level of the optical signal; and
- an optical fiber amplifier operatively connected to the optical coupler for amplifying the second optical light with excitation by an exciting light.
19. (newly added) The optical amplifier according to claim 18,
- wherein the optical fiber amplifier is controlled to output an optical signal having a constant level.

### REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner that the cited art teaches or suggests the present invention.

### REMARKS

Claims 15-19 are pending in the present application. Claims 15-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over Applicant's disclosure of the prior art, Fig. 15